



EXHIBIT 4  
DATE 25-07  
HB 359

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Carrie Biskupiak; I am a licensed Clinical Laboratory Scientist and the Past-President of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Montana (ASCLS-MT). I have been a Clinical Laboratory Scientist for 25 years.

I am representing ASCLS-Montana, which is a National Professional Organization that represents Clinical Laboratory Practitioners in the state of Montana. We oppose this bill as written for numerous reasons, but due to the time factor, I will concentrate on one of the most important issues which is, **"Patient Safety"**. Laboratory tests are diagnostic tools which must be used in conjunction with other diagnostic specialties and more importantly with clinical evaluation from trained medical professionals. One single "positive" or "negative" result can be misleading and most Laboratory tests are not just a simple positive or negative result but a value that must be interpreted and evaluated in conjunction with other clinical tools. These results can be misleading if these clinical tools are not utilized. A physician will most likely need to re-order the testing performed because the patient was not clinically evaluated prior to the test being performed. Pre-analytical, analytical, and post analytical review of a patients laboratory testing is critical to the outcome of the Laboratory test result.

Patient directed healthcare may be beneficial with a standardized, limited, test menu determined by a group of Laboratory and Medical Professionals. This group would need the appropriate time to develop this list of tests, suitable for individuals to order.

We only agree with the proposed amendment stating that the Laboratory and testing personnel should not be held liable for test results ordered and obtained by individuals.

Patient safety should ultimately be everyone's concern.

We encourage you to oppose this bill as written and look forward to consulting with you on any new amendments.

Respectfully Submitted,

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